

REMARKS

Applicants have amended their claims by adding new claim 13 to the application. New claim 13 defines a copper electroplating bath including a solution containing copper ions and at least one of electrolytes with an addition of at least one of the additional components in claims 1, 2 and 3.

The election-of-species requirement set forth on page 2 of the Office Action mailed August 20, 2003, is noted. Consistent with the requirements therein, Applicants respectfully elect species (c), which the Examiner has designated as compounds represented by the general formula (I). Of the claims originally in the above-identified application, claims 3, 6, 9 and 12 read on the elected species.

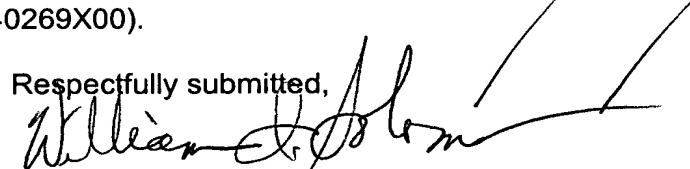
In addition, it is respectfully submitted that newly added claim 13 also reads on the elected species. Thus, with examination of claims reading on species (c), it is respectfully submitted that examination on the merits of claims 3, 6, 9, 12 and 13 should be performed in the above-identified application in due course.

The contention by the Examiner in the second paragraph on page 2 of the Office Action mailed August 20, 2003, that, currently, there is no generic claim in the application, is noted. It is respectfully submitted that newly added claim 13 is a generic claim, reading on each of species (a), (b) and (c). It is respectfully submitted that upon full examination of claim 13 and allowance thereof, all claims directed to each of the species in the above-identified application should be re-joined in the above-identified application, with all claims presently in the above-identified application being considered and allowed therein.

In view of the foregoing, entry of the present amendments, and examination on the merits of claims reading on the elected species (that is, claims reading on a bath including compounds represented by the general formula (I)), that is, claims 3, 6, 9, 12 and 13, in due course, is respectfully requested. Moreover, upon allowance of claim 13, re-joining of claims directed to the non-elected species, and allowance of such claims in the above-identified application, are respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (referencing case no. 500.40269X00).

Respectfully submitted,


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